

## JOAN S. MEIER

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### EDUCATION

**University of Chicago Law School, J.D. cum laude** 1983

**Harvard University, B.A., magna cum laude in Government** 1980

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL** 1991-present  
**Professor of Clinical Law (1995-present); Associate Professor of Clinical Law (1991-1995)**  
**On leave 2001-2003**

Founded and Directed Domestic Violence Advocacy Project (litigation clinic), in which students represent victims of domestic violence in court. Clinic is co-taught with mental health professional. Supervised students in domestic violence litigation and law reform projects. Taught clinic seminar on domestic violence and the law, lawyering and trial skills, and lawyering for social change. 1993-2001

Co-Founded and Co-Direct Domestic Violence Emergency Department (DVED) Clinic, in which students provide supportive interventions for patients who have been abused in local emergency rooms and in-patient Psychiatry Department. Co-teach Clinic seminar with mental health professional, and train and supervise students in implementation of Advocates' Protocol, legal remedies for victims of domestic violence, and interviewing and counseling and advocacy skills. Responsible for ongoing program development. 1999-present

Received substantial grant awards under Violence Against Women Act to found and expand DVED Clinic and to support interdisciplinary DVAP Clinic. 1998, 2000

Co-taught Civil and Family Litigation Clinic. 1991-1993

**Adjunct Professor of Family Law** Spring 1993, Fall 1998

**WASHINGTON & LEE SCHOOL OF LAW** Fall 1997  
**Visiting Professor of Law**

Taught Criminal Law and Family Law.

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, SEX DISCRIMINATION CLINIC** 1985-86, 1991

**Womens' Law & Public Policy Fellow (1985-86) and Adjunct Professor (Spring 1991)**

Supervised students in domestic violence cases and co-taught clinic seminar on domestic violence law and trial skills.

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW** 1989

**Adjunct Professor of Family Law**  
**OTHER LEGAL EMPLOYMENT**

**Consultant to Special Master, Indian Trust Litigation (Cobell v. Norton et al)** 2001-present

**Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts, Washington, D.C.** 1987-1991  
Associate specializing in litigation, environmental law, and pro bono litigation.

**Public Citizen Litigation Group, Washington, D.C.** 1986-1987  
Staff attorney for PCLG and Director of Freedom of Information Clearinghouse.  
Litigated in federal court and administrative agencies under the Freedom of Information Act and U.S. Constitution.

**U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Chicago, Illinois** Spring 1985  
Law Clerk to Judge Frank H. Easterbrook

**Jenner & Block, Chicago, Illinois** 1983-1985  
Associate specializing in general litigation.

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

"Domestic Violence, Character and Social Change in the Welfare Reform Debate," Law and Policy 19:2, 205-263 (April 1997)(Symposium on Domestic Violence and Welfare)(awarded National Equal Justice Library's Edgar & Jean Cahn Award), *portions reprinted in* Dalton & Schneider, BATTERED WOMEN AND THE LAW (Foundation: 2001)

"Domestic Violence and Feminist Jurisprudence: Toward a New Agenda" 4 Boston University Public Interest Law Journal 339 (Symposium 1995) (with Naomi Cahn)

Introduction to Chapter, "Feminist Theory and Legal Norms" in The Public Nature of Private Violence, Fineman & Mykitiuk, Eds., (Routledge: 1994)

"Notes From the Underground: Integrating Psychological and Legal Perspectives on Domestic Violence in Theory and Practice" 21 Hofstra L. Rev. 1295 (Symposium)(Summer 1993), *portions reprinted in* Dalton & Schneider, BATTERED WOMEN AND THE LAW (Foundation: 2001)

"The 'Right' to a Disinterested Prosecutor of Criminal Contempt: Unpacking Public and Private Interests," 70 Washington Law Quarterly 85 (Spring 1992)

Recent Developments, "Double Jeopardy and Enforcement of Civil Protection Orders," 1 Tex. J. of Women and Law 269 (Spring 1992)(with Naomi Cahn)

"Battered Justice," The Washington Monthly (May 1987) (cover story), reprinted in Social Issues Resources Series, Vol. 3 (1984-1987)

### **IN PROGRESS:**

Books: Criminal Law and the Family (with Naomi Cahn and Mary Coombs)(Carolina Academic Press)

Articles: "Thinking out of the Box: Collaborative Responses to the Domestic Violence / Child Abuse Overlap"  
"Therapists in Court: Toward a New Ethical and Legal Framework"  
"Due Process in Contempt Enforcement of Civil Protection Orders: Redeeming the Public/Private Distinction"

### **CONSULTING AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

<b>Legal Consultant, William Wendt Center for Loss &amp; Healing</b>	2001-present
<b>Advisory Board, National Evaluation of Domestic Violence Victims' Civil Legal Assistance Program</b>	2001-present
<b>Peer Reviewer, Dept. of Justice, Violence Against Women Act grants</b>	2000-present
<b>Member, Mayor's Commission on Violence Against Women</b>	1996 - present
<b>Member, Advisory Committee, ABA Commission on Domestic Violence Curriculum Project</b>	1996-1997
<b>Member, National Task Force on Women, Welfare and Abuse</b>	1996-1997
<b>Board of Advisors, "Domestic Violence Report," a bimonthly Report published by the Civic Research Institute</b>	1995-present
<b>Ad Hoc Reviewer, <u>Law &amp; Society Review</u></b>	1992-1995
<b>Periodic Reviewer, Family Law Chapter, <u>Street Law: A Course in Practical Law</u></b>	1987-1993
<b>Co-Chair, DC/MD/VA/W. VA Women Law Professors Group</b>	1994-1995
<b>Member, D.C. Superior Court Domestic Violence Coordinating Council</b>	1993-present
<b>Member, Working Group, Battered Women's Justice Project</b> Ongoing consultation with Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and battered women's advocates around country concerning variety of issues.	1993-present
<b>Member, D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence</b> Testimony before D.C. Council on numerous provisions relating to domestic violence, litigation of constitutional issues under IntraFamily Offenses Act in Superior Court, D.C. Court of Appeals and U.S. Supreme Court; Advocacy and policy development with D.C. Superior Court, Metropolitan Police Department and U.S. Attorney's Office concerning treatment of family and domestic violence cases; Development of empirical study and Report on Police Response to Domestic Violence; and extensive media appearances.	1986-present
<b>Member, Inter-University Consortium on Poverty Law</b> Participated in Meetings and consultations concerning poverty-related issues in legal education and policy; Co-hosted "Peer Exchange" at George Washington University National Law Center.	1993-1996
<b>Member, U.S. Attorney's Office Advisory Board on Domestic Violence</b>	1993-1995
<b>Member, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department Task Force on Domestic Violence</b>	1990

#### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS**

Presenter, "Collaborative Responses to Domestic Violence / Child Abuse Cases," at Workshop on Feminism and Child Protection, sponsored by Baldy Center for Law & Policy, (SUNY-Buffalo) and Feminism and Legal Theory Project (Cornell Law School), May 3-4, 2002.

Presenter, "Thinking out of the Box with Collaborative Responses to the Child Abuse/Domestic Violence Overlap," at Symposium, "Confronting Domestic Violence and Achieving Gender Equality: Evaluating Battered Women and

Feminist Lawmaking,” American University Law School, April 19-20, 2002.

Invited Panel Chair and Discussant, Panel on “Violence Against Women and Welfare,” American Association of Public Policy and Management Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., November 5, 2001.

Panel Presentation, “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Domestic Violence,” Family Violence Prevention Fund Annual Conference on Domestic Violence and Health, San Francisco, October 2000.

Invited Panel Presentation, “Expert Witnesses in Domestic Violence Cases,” “Civil Institute” co-sponsored by ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and DOJ Violence Against Women Office, May 2000.

Invited Panel Presentation, “The Domestic Violence Emergency Department Clinic,” ABA Commission on Domestic Violence Conference on “Educating to End Domestic Violence,” GW Law School, September 1999.

Facilitator, “Domestic Violence Clinics,” Small Group Workshop, ABA Commission on Domestic Violence Conference on Educating to End Domestic Violence, GW Law School, September 1999.

Panel Presentation, “Psychological Perspectives: Sources of Conflict,” Feminism and Legal Theory Workshop on “Uncomfortable Conversations,” Ithaca, N.Y., April 16, 1999.

Presenter, Workshop, “Helping clients overcome domestic violence,” Legal Services of New Jersey Annual Conference, Eatontown, New Jersey, November 17, 1998.

Moderator, Feminism and Legal Theory Workshop on “Law and the Construction of Identity,” New York, N.Y., November 7, 1998.

Presenter, “Domestic Violence, Character, and Social Change,” Feminism and Legal Theory Workshop, New York, N.Y., November 7, 1998.

Guest Speaker, “Domestic Violence in D.C.,” Family Violence Course, George Washington University Department of Sociology, October 20, 1998.

Panel Presentation, “The District of Columbia Unified Domestic Violence Court,” American Bar Association Summit on Unified Family Courts, Philadelphia, PA, May 15, 1998.

Keynote Speaker, “Professional Challenges: Advanced Perspectives on the Psychological and Economic Issues Involved in Advocating for Domestic Violence Victims,” Training Conference on Special Issues in Representing Victims of Domestic Violence, Rutgers-Camden School of Law, Camden, New Jersey, April 12, 1997.

“Welfare Reform and Domestic Violence”, D.C. Bar Mid-Winter Convention, Feb. 25, 1997.

“Changing Perspectives on Domestic Violence as a Crime,” Joint Program of Criminal Law and Family/Juvenile Law Sections on “Criminal Law and the Family,” Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., Jan. 6, 1997.

“Teaching about Women and Poverty in the Clinic,” 12th Annual Women and the Law Program of the Washington College of Law at the 1997 AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., Jan. 5, 1997.

Small Group Facilitator, Joint Program of Women in Legal Education, Poverty Law and Clinical Law Sections on “Women and Poverty: The State, Care Giving, Work and Violence,” 1997 AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., Jan. 4, 1997.

“Domestic Violence, Character and Social Change in the Welfare Reform Debate,” Mid-Atlantic Clinical Theory and Practice Workshop, Catholic University School of Law, Dec. 13, 1996.

"An Interdisciplinary Domestic Violence Clinic" (with Mary Ann Dutton, PhD), ABA Commission on Domestic Violence Meeting on Domestic Violence Curriculum Project, Dec. 10, 1996.

Panel Presentation, "A Feminist Perspective on the Simpson Case," George Washington University Law School, October 11, 1995.

"Domestic Violence and the Law," American University, Family Violence Course, February, 1996.

"History of Legal Developments concerning Domestic Violence in the United States," before the International Association of Women Judges, Washington, D.C., July 19, 1995.

Moderator, Panel on "The Problem of Violence and Poverty," NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, "Leadership Summit," Washington, D.C., April 28, 1995.

Co-Facilitator, "Social Change Lawyering," Workshop at Alliance for Justice Symposium, Washington, D.C. October 3, 1994.

"Domestic Violence and the Law," Mount Vernon College course on "Cultures in Crisis," Washington, D.C., April 13, 1995.

"Domestic Violence," National Youth Leadership Forum, Washington, D.C., March 15, 1995.

Work-in-Progress, Criminal Law and the Family, Women Law Professors of Washington, Baltimore, Md. Area Spring Symposium, Baltimore, MD, April 1, 1995.

Commentator on Papers by Peter Margulies and Ann Shalleck at Symposium on Professional Responsibility, Community and Pluralism, George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., February 17, 1995.

Co-presenter, "Social Change Lawyering in the Law School Clinic," Mid-Atlantic Clinical Theory Workshop, Catholic University Law School, Washington, D.C., September 23, 1994.

Reviewer and Contributor, D.C. Practice Manual, Third Edition, Chapter on Domestic Relations (1993-94).

Co-teacher and Presenter, "Counter-transference in Domestic Violence Work" in Small Group on Domestic Violence at American Association of Law Schools Clinical Section Workshop, Newport Beach, California, June, 1994.

Co-host of National Peer Exchange on Domestic Violence and Feminist Jurisprudence at George Washington University National Law Center, April, 1994.

"An Interdisciplinary Approach to Teaching a Domestic Violence Clinic" (with Mary Ann Dutton, PhD), at Peer Exchange on Domestic Violence and Feminist Jurisprudence at George Washington University National Law Center, April, 1994.

"The Connection Between Spouse Abuse and Child Abuse: A Study of System Failure," before the Family Law Section, Annual Meeting of American Association of Law Schools, Orlando, Florida, January, 1994.

Co-teacher, "Evaluation in the Law School Clinic," at the American Association of Law Schools Annual Conference Clinical Section Meeting, San Francisco, January 6, 1993.

Presentation and Publication, "Defending Battered Mothers: Some Thoughts on the Child Factor in Domestic Violence," ABA National Institute Section on Criminal Justice, "Defending Battered Women in Criminal Cases," Baltimore, Maryland, September 24, 1992.

Commentator, Panel on "Feminist Theory and Legal Norms" at Domestic Violence Symposium, Columbia University School of Law, April 4, 1992.

Paper, "The Relevance of Domestic Violence in Establishing Jurisdiction over Child Custody," commissioned by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the National Woman Abuse Prevention Center, December 1991.

### **TRAININGS AND TESTIMONY**

Co-Presenter, "Testifying in Court: A Primer for Therapists," William Wendt Center for Loss & Healing Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., October 2001 (with Dottie Ward-Wimmer)

Presenter, "Litigation Tactics and Strategies in CPO Litigation," D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation, CLE Course on new Domestic Violence Rules, March 2001.

Trainer, "Dynamics of Domestic Violence; Counseling and Safety Planning for Battered Women," D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation, Domestic Violence Training, October 30, 2000.

Invited Two-day Facilitator for ongoing Breakout Sessions, DC Domestic Violence Training Conference, Co-sponsored by the US DOJ, DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, D.C. Superior Court Domestic Violence Intake Center et al., May 1999.

Training, National Association of Public Interest Law, "Empowering Battered Women Clients," Doubletree Inn, Washington, D.C., April 30, 1999

Presenter, Workshop on Domestic Violence, St. Francis Center 1998 Illness, Loss & Grief Conference, Oct. 1998

Trainer, "Nuts & Bolts Seminar on Representing Children in Domestic Violence Cases," D.C. Bar PSAC et al., June 2, 1998 (training for Guardians Ad Litem).

Testimony before D.C. Council on Phase II welfare reform legislation, "Self-Sufficiency Promotion Emergency Amendment Act of 1998, April 30, 1998.

Trainer, "Domestic Violence, Work and Welfare," for D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy Project, May 31, 1997.

Presenter, Presidential Showcase Session, "Domestic Violence and Child Support Collection," Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Association Training Conference, Buffalo, NY, Monday May 5, 1997.

Testimony before D.C. Task Forces on Welfare Reform Plan under Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, Dec. 5, 1996.

Presenter, "Child Support Enforcement and Domestic Violence", by invitation of Dept. of Health and Human Services at the "New Responsibilities Forum," October 31, 1996.

Presenter, TeleConference Forum on Domestic Violence and Welfare, by invitation of U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, October 24, 1996.

Trainer, "Interviewing a Victim of Domestic Violence," D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation, Domestic Violence Training, October 1996.

"Welfare and Domestic Violence," by invitation of U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, at Conference on "Changing the Culture," Washington, D.C, September 3, 1996.

"Legal Remedies for Domestic Violence," Asian Womens' Self-Help Association, Rockville, Maryland, April 27, 1996.

Trainer, "Contempt Enforcement of Civil Protection Orders," D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation, Domestic Violence Training, October 1995, 1996.

Trainer, ABA Section on Litigation, Pro Bono Committee, Legal Services Advocacy Program, Catholic University Law School, Washington, D.C., June 2, 1995.

Testimony before D.C. Council on "Joint Custody of Children Amendment Act of 1995," May 10, 1995.

Trainer, "Counseling and Safety Planning," D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation, Domestic Violence Training, October 7, 1994.

Testimony (written) before U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee in Opposition to the Nomination of Alexander Williams to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Maryland, July 18, 1994.

Trainer, "Civil Protection Orders in D.C.," for Emergency Domestic Relations Project Pro Bono Training, Crowell & Moring, July 6, 1994.

Testimony before D.C. Council on "Joint Custody of Children Amendment Act of 1993," April 14, 1994.

Testimony before D.C. Council on "Evidence of Spouse Abuse in Child Custody Cases Act of 1993" and "Evidence of Battered Spouse Syndrome Act of 1993," May 26, 1993.

Testimony before D.C. Council on "Anti-Stalking Amendment Act of 1993," March 24, 1993.

Trainer, "Criminal Prosecution of Domestic Violence," for D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence Criminal Justice Advocacy Project, 1991, 1992 and 1993.

Trainer, "Police Response to Domestic Violence," for D.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence and D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, 1992.

Panelist in Workshop on Domestic Violence, Legal Services of New Jersey Annual Conference, New Brunswick, New Jersey, November 4, 1992.

Testimony before D.C. Council on "Prevention of Domestic Violence Amendment Act of 1990," 1990.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS**

Second Biennial Edgar & Jean Cahn Award for "Domestic Violence, Character and Social Change in the Welfare Reform Debate," awarded by the National Equal Justice Library, September 2001

Georgetown Women's Law & Public Policy Fellowship, GULC Sex Discrimination Clinic, 1985-86

Public Interest Law Internship Graduate Fellowship, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, Summer 1983.

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

American Association of Law Schools (Clinical Law, Women in Legal Education, and Juvenile/Family Law Sections); American Bar Association, Family Law Section; Washington Council of Lawyers

United States Supreme Court; U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; District of Columbia Bar; Illinois Bar (Inactive)

### **MEDIA**

Media interviews with radio, newspapers and television news and documentaries.